NEWSLETTER FALL 2023





## SHOP CHATS

These are informal gatherings for members and friends to meet and share their space, projects, and ideas with each other. Carpool if you can and bring a snack or beverage to share.

Any member is welcome anytime to announce a 'flash chat' - an impromptu gathering at one's house or shop should one have a special tool, idea, and/or project to share with other SWGers. For example, a project that is about to leave for delivery. Feel free to broadcast to the guild members the date, time, and place using the guild's group email address:

#### swgmembers@googlegroups.com

You can also ask Tom Phillips or Herbert Edwin Harris III to broadcast this information.

10/07: Sat. 10:00am ~ noon House Chat at Tom Phillips. In the Railroad district of Ashland. Many SWGers have been to his shop, but few have been inside his renovated old house built 1899-1900. There is plenty to see as the work went on for many years while raising his family during the process. OK, we may even get out to the shop as well. A reminder and address will be emailed out the week prior.

11/04: Sat. 10:00am ~ noon At Roger Butterfield's shop. South-West area of Medford. He has been a carver and wood artist for many years. There will be an opportunity for some hands-on experience for those who want to try working with a mallet & gouges. A reminder and address will be emailed out the week prior.

# Message from the President

Hello Splinter Collectors,

There are many situations that can cause a woodworker to have nightmares.

A bad dream about getting physically injured can leave you shaken for awhile. Then there are the ones where you are trying to figure out how to create a difficult design element and you wake up wondering why you ever thought you could accomplish that. Maybe it's the delivery story in which you didn't wrap it well enough or bump into a doorway as you are carrying it through. How about the slippery fingers tale of dropping a tool on a completed piece. One of my reoccurring (waking up sweating) night time 'visions' is of watching my drill bit come through a finished top or side surface while I am pre-drilling for my assembly screw. Also included in this version can be the screw that keeps going and comes poking through at a visible spot!

I've had several projects for which my clients have decided to use metal legs under a wooden top. They like the style, 'low' cost, and efficiency of metal legs. Two of those tables were plenty thick so getting a good 1+" grab with the assembly screws was easy enough to accomplish

The other day I was preparing a simple desk for my grandson repurposing an old bed headboard that was just ¾" thick. Now we all know that it's a simple jig to make - sending your bit through a scrap then adjusting the drill bit in the drill so it sticks through the scrap the correct distance. Once this is done it's 'apiece-of-cake' to get the job done and with such repetitive steps you usually

keep going until the end. Being a smart craftsman I had already used my self-centering bit in each hole of the rear leg bracket. All I was doing next was using a bit sized correctly for a #10 screw to go 5/8" deep. I bought 3/4" screws and ground the points off (to be sure), knowing that the metal plate will keep the screws from driving in. So off I go pushing my drill down at the pre-located places, and mid-way along, I notice that my 'stop block', being of softwood, was getting chewed into by the drill's chuck 'teeth'. That would result in having the bit stick out further and deeper into the underside of my wood top! Fortunately I was NOT in 'automatic' mode. I placed a washer around the bit on the drill side of the spacer block and managed to complete my task correctly.

Of course, I should know better and could have been using a hardwood for my spacer material. I'm just glad that I was awake enough to catch this trouble-in-the-making before creating some holes in the top surface (even though it had multiple defects already). This is one example of how we can trick ourselves into thinking we have taken care of business. By assuming that everything is set correctly, we often can forget to keep checking our process as we go. We 'know' to work carefully on things that are complicated, but it can be hard to pay proper attention to the simple, easy, yet important steps.

# - Tom Phillips

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Russell Beebe finished these two story poles earlier this year. They took a couple years to complete. They were shipped to a client located at upstate New York (near Massachusetts). You can see video close-ups of these story poles on the guild's webite. Scroll down to Russell Beebe's section and you will see links to the videos. If you run the video in your browser you can find the settings button for the video player and select the highest quality resolution.

https://siskiyouwoodcraftguild.org/memb er-showcase/

By the way, if you ever forget the schedule for our various meetings, Jeff has included a month-by-month event calendar on our website. Go to the Event section, then click on Calendar!

# FALL SHOW SCHEDULE

Our policy for participating in the show is as follows: Returning members who have previously been juried and recently participated in a previous show are grandfathered in and can request the same location they used in previous shows. This allows for better preparation and easier setup and tells us how much space is available for members showing for the first time. We also encourage and consider product variety in the shows. Please email or call Tom Phillips before 9/20 (if you have not already done so) to tell him one of the following...

- 1) You have recently participated and would like to participate again this year.
- 2) You have recently participated but will not participate this year.
- 3) You have never participated in the past and would like to be juried at the show meeting on 9/23 to participate this year.

Tom can be contacted at 541-482-4829 or <tmpsworks@gmail.com>

\*\*\*You do not need to be a show participant to volunteer!\*\*\*

## Important dates!

10/10: Tues.

Due date for registration forms and fees.

#### 11/21: Tues.

5:00p: Meet at the Stor-a-While (south end of town on Siskiyou Blvd. near Tolman Creek Rd.) Our unit is down the first lane on the right as you enter. We need volunteers to move boxes, platforms, and panels to the OSF room. You do not need to be a show participant to volunteer!

# 11/22: Wed.

9:00a ~ 12:00a: Deliver and setup time! Once you have moved your pieces into the OSF room you can work as long as you need to setup your display. Also, you should work things out with your show neighbors for good visibility and 'flow'.

#### 11/24: Fri.

8:30a - 9:30a: Final Set-up.

9:35a: Pre-Show meeting with all participants! 10:00a - 7:00p: Open to the public (until sometime after the parade dust settles).

# 11/25: Sat.

10:00a - 6:00p: Open ...

## 11/26: Sun.

10:00a- 4:00p: Open ...

4:15p: Show wrap-up meeting and Pizza Party! 5:00p: Take it down, pack it out (as much as possible), and clean it up...

#### 11/27: Mon.

9:00a: Final clear out and cleanup. Take SWG equipment back to Stor-a-While.



# **OUR MISSION**

The Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild is a regional association of woodworkers encouraging a wide range of skills, knowledge, and interests. Our mission is to offer fellowship by providing networking among our members. We value the principles and practices of fine woodworking by encouraging technical discussion and development. We promote an appreciation of quality workmanship to the general public by providing access to our products, experience, and design expertise through shows, classes, and other events.

#### 2023 OFFICERS

# President

Tom Phillips

#### Treasurer

Jens Sehm

# Secretary

Herbert Edwin Harris III

### Webmaster

Jeff Roberts

# **Steering Committee**

Herbert Edwin Harris III, Eric Olson, Tom Phillips, Morgan Pierce, Brent Poulton, Jeff Roberts, Will Sears, Jens Sehm, David Stan, Wayne Tarris, Jay Treiger

REMINDERS: Please send contact information updates to Herb Harris